GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:721
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2001
PROTECTION OF PEACOCKS
NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

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(a) the number of peacocks in various Zoological Parks and sanctuaries in the country;

(b) the number of peacocks killed by poachers during the last three years and punishment given to them as a result thereof; and

(c) the policy of the Government to increase the number of peacocks and providing them protection?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI T.R.BAALU)

(a) There are 764 peafowls in various Zoological Parks of the country. Population estimation of peafowls in sanctuaries and other parts of the country has not been carried out.

(b) The details of peafowls killed due to poaching and other reasons during the last three years and the action taken against the offenders is given at Annexure.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to provide protection to peafowls are as follows:

(i) Legal protection has been provided to wild animals including peafowls against hunting and commercial exploitation under the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972.

(ii) Peafowl is included in the schedule -I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby according it highest degree of protection.
iii) The Central Bureau of Investigation has been empowered under the Wildlife

(Protection) Act,1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders.

(iv) Funds are provided to the State Governments for improving the habitats and providing protection of wildlife in various parts of the country.

(v) Export of peafowl and their derivatives is prohibited under the current EXIM Policy.

(vi) Awareness is generated amongst the farmers for using Bio-pesticides and non-poisonous chemicals in their fields. They are also advised to cover the seeds with soil immediately after sowing.

(vii) The forest field staff have been instructed to maintain vigil in sensitive areas.